

## Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAB-01 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 055490

R 280539Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1489

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3018

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJ: ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

REF: CAIRO 3423 AND TRIPOLI 0563

1. JORDANIAN MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ZUHAYR MUFTI  
GAVE ME RUNDOWN MAY 26 ON RECENT ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL  
MEETING WHICH HE ATTENDED IN CAIRO.

2. MUFTI SAID MEETING DISCUSSED TWO ITEMS. FIRST  
ITEM AIMED AT BETTER MILITARY COORDINATION BETWEEN ARAB  
ARMIES REGARDING TECHNICAL MILITARY ASPECTS IN  
LIGHT OF PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN OCTOBER WAR. SPECIFIC  
TECHNICAL AREAS WHERE POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENT WAS  
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DISCUSSED WERE: COMMUNICATIONS, SUPPLY, COORDINATION

OF ARMAMENT AND MUNITIONS FROM WIDELY VARYING MILITARY INVENTORIES, AND TRAINING. MUFTI SAID DISCUSSIONS WERE STRICTLY CONFINED TO TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AND DID NOT GO INTO POLITICAL OR STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS. THESE DISCUSSIONS LASTED QUOTE ONLY ONE HOUR UNQUOTE AND WERE RAMANDED TO CHIEFS OF STAFF FOR FURTHER WORK.

3. SECOND ISSUE WAS DISCUSSION OF ARAB LEAGUE JCS PAPER PROPOSING CREATION ARAB SOPHISTICATED ARMAMENT INDUSTRY. MUFTI SAID PROPOSAL GOT NOWHERE SINCE NO ARAB COUNTRY SEEMED POLITICALLY WILLING AT THIS POINT TO RELY ON ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY FOR ITS DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS. HE SAID PROPOSAL APPEARED TO BE ONE OF FOCUSING ON EGYPTIAN ARMAMENT INDUSTRY, ALTHOUGH OTHERS CLAIMED THEY ALSO HAD INDUSTRIES WHICH COULD BE USED FOR PURPOSE. IMPLICATION WAS THAT MEETING WAS SOMETHING OF A DONNEYBROOK, WHILE ALL HAD EXPECTED CAREFULLY PREPARED ADVANCE PAPER ON INDUSTRIES TO SAIL THROUGH. MUFTI GIVES ARMAMENT PROJECT LITTLE CHANCE OF SUCCESS IN NEAR FUTURE AS LONG AS QUOTE POLITICAL UNQUOTE PROBLEM OF WHOSE INDUSTRY IS DEVELOPED REMAINS.

4. MUFTI SAID ARAB CHIEFS OF STAFF WILL FOLLOW UP TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY QUESTION IN MEETING SET FOR JULY, WITH EXACT VENUE STILL OPEN TO AN INVITATION FROM A STATE DESIRING TO PLAY HOST. PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

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